

# PBIS . . . It's about C.O.R.E



## Stonybrook Middle School is Making It Happen!



**WE ARE** located in the northeastern part of Warren Township, which is in the east central section of Marion County in Indianapolis, Indiana. We are one of three middle schools in the district and our students will attend Warren Central High School.

**OUR STUDENTS & FAMILIES** are why we are here and we love them! We serve 630 diverse 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders (65% African-American, 15% Caucasian, 13% Hispanic, and 6% multi-racial). Approximately, 80% of our students qualify for free and reduced lunch; however, that number fluctuates due to our high transiency rate.

**OUR TEACHERS** at Stonybrook are as diverse as our students! We have 38 educators who serve our students every day. As a middle school, we are lucky to have two interventionists, a PBIS Specialist, and highly-qualified teachers in all content areas. Twelve of our staff members have attended Harvard University's Urban Leadership Institute.

We have a Tier 1 PBIS Team and a Tier 2 PBIS Team. Each team works together; however, their individual focus is strategic and is built upon the different needs of the different tiered interventions.

**OUR PROMISING PRACTICE** is implementing Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) for ALL students. This school-wide approach to discipline focuses on building a safe and positive environment in which all students can learn with a specific focus on the ways in which our cultures impact our behavior. The PBIS three-tiered support reduces problem behaviors as a barrier to student achievement. The foundations of PBIS at Stonybrook Middle School are based on four school-wide expectations known as C.O.R.E.: Civility, Order, Respect, and Excellence. Our PBIS program has other components supported throughout the school:

- Behavior Matrix: explains specific behavior expectations for specific areas of school
- Direct Teaching: behavior lessons that are taught to all students and staff
- Acknowledgment System: recognition of appropriate behavior
- Behavior Reporting: behavior is recorded in several easy ways for collection
- Data Collection: school and student decisions are based on data

**OUR STEPS** were organized and included all stakeholders!

- Our team was identified and training was provided by MSD Warren.
- Surveys and data were collected to identify where our school could benefit the most. Our goals were fewer behavior issues, getting back instructional time, and better attendance for student success.
- ALL teachers bought in to PBIS and participated in training from the PBIS Team.
- Data is reviewed monthly to determine re-teaching as an opportunity to correct understanding, not punish.
- Lesson plans are designed by staff, for staff to push out during a designated time to all students.
- Positive reinforcement for students and staff is designed at the school level and we encourage parents to do the same at home. \*Celebration is critical.

### IN OUR OWN WORDS

"I have a lot of CORE Cash because I do what I'm supposed to do by following CORE!" - SMS 7<sup>th</sup> Grader

"I like when our teachers plan celebrations, like NO TARDY PARTY. It helps the kids who always do the little stuff right get recognition." - SMS 8<sup>th</sup> Grader

"At first, some of us were a little skeptical of PBIS. However, our Teams are awesome problem solvers, they are consistent and positive, so that helps keep me motivated. The kids like the incentives." -SMS Staff Member



Please visit our website at [www.stonybrook.warren.k12.in.us](http://www.stonybrook.warren.k12.in.us), check us out on Twitter at @Stonybrook\_MS, or on Instagram @stonbrookmsredstorm. You can email [pgriffin@warren.k12.in.us](mailto:pgriffin@warren.k12.in.us).